

Appl. No. 10/692,557

Amdt. Dated 8/19/2004

Response to Office Action dated 06/07/2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph 38 on page 12 of the specification as follows:

[0038] FIG. 3B is a side view showing the support pin 100 for stage apparatus placed into the rail 200, and FIG. 3C is a side view showing the support pin 100 for stage apparatus secured onto a rail according to the invention. When initially turning the pin body 110 clockwise, the cam portion of the collar 134 of the t-bolt 130, by virtue of its shape, automatically aligns the head 132 of the t-bolt generally perpendicularly to the channel 210. The cam portion of the collar 134 contacts the inner edge of lips 212 of the rail 200 to align the head 132 of the t-bolt. By rotating the pin body 110 clockwise, the t-bolt 130 is screwed into the receiving cavity within the pin body 110. The t-bolt 130 is held in a stationary position by the cam portion of the collar 134 contacting the inner edge of lips 212 of the rail 200. By rotating the pin body 110 clockwise, the male threads of the ~~cylindrical~~ cylindrical portion 138 of the t-bolt 130 are drawn by the corresponding female threads of the cavity of the pin body 110 into the cavity of the pin body 110. This causes the underside of the head 132 of the t-bolt 130 to contact the underside of the lips 212.